

# Impact your future



An opportunity for 15 youth, ages 16-20 to do an intensive exploration of careers in

## The Boston Fire Department.

**Requirements:** Youth will fill out personal information and write a 750 word essay on why he/she is interested in this career exploration. These will be due back to Bird Street/GOTCHA on September 18th and the 15 winners will be announced on September 25th.

All youth accepted must be available to attend all four sessions on: October 3, 10, 17 and 24 from 8:30 AM to 11 AM. Breakfast will be served.

### Session 1: Introduction to Careers at the Boston Fire Department

Male and female firefighters will share their experiences with applying for and serving in the Boston Fire Department. Participants will view a short film, followed by discussion and Question and Answer period. Topics will include: who is eligible, how does one apply, training, long-term employment, salaries, benefits, retirement, etc.

### Session 2: Field Trip and Job Shadow

Participants will visit a Dorchester Fire House to explore the equipment and to job shadow active firefighters

### Session 3: The Firefighters' Exams

Participants will take the practice exam, receive their scores, review their test scores and learn about ways to improve their grades during the year

### Session 4: The Physical Ability Exam

All applicants to the Boston Fire Department must pass a physical ability exam. Firefighters will go through the exercises with the participants and help them evaluate what skills need to be improved. Bird Street Athletic staff members will attend this session, so that they can work with interested students during the year.

**Awards:** All participants that complete the four sessions will receive a Certificate of Completion at a special ceremony at a time TBD.

September 16, 2009

Dear Colleagues of Bird Street Community Center:

**Calling on older teens and young adults, ages 17-21 who are interested in pursuing a career with the Boston Fire Department!!!**

Bird Street and The Boston Fire Department have developed a four-week training program that will run on Saturdays through the month of October, 2009 that will help prepare applicants for the BFD exam in April of 2010.

The program is designed to give the youth sample written and physical tests and to evaluate the results with the youth. Following the results, the work will involve mentoring and support to bring their test scores into the highest level of comprehension.

The program will also include visits to various Fire Houses to learn about the jobs, the equipment and the career path of a fire fighter.

The program is free and is open to 15 young people who will commit to the four Saturdays from 9-1.

Please call Andrea Kaiser, Executive Director of Bird Street at 617-282-6110 ext. 21 if you have interested youth. They can also email me at [akaiser@birdstreet.org](mailto:akaiser@birdstreet.org). All of the meetings will start out at Bird Street's 500 Columbia Road, Dorchester location. A simple application form is all that is required. Both males and females are encouraged to explore this career opportunity. The BFD only offers the exam once every two years. Applicants must be 19 at the time of the exam.

Thank you for your assistance in passing this information and flyer on to prospective Participants.

Sincerely,

Andrea Kaiser